

MASTER OF
KUNG FU™

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



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THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU

SHANG-CHI'S DEADLIEST
FOES RETURN AS PAWNS
IN THE HANDS OF MARVEL'S
MASTER OF MACABRE
VILLAINY-- DR. DOOM!



**DOOM
GAME!**



State _____ Zip Code _____

"Call me Shang-Chi, as my **father** did, when he raised me and molded my mind and my body in the vacuum of his Honan, China retreat. I learned many things from my father. Since then, I have learned that my father is **Dr. Fu Manchu**, the most insidiously evil man on earth...and that to **honor** him would bring nothing but **dishonor** to the spirit of my **name**.

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

MASTER OF KUNG FU!

Featuring supporting characters created by SAX ROHMER



MOMENTS OF CRYSTALLIZED
WONDER BY:

DOUG MOENCH	WRITER
MIKE ZECK	ARTIST
TARTAG	INKER
KAREN KISH	LETTERER
SAM KATO	COLORIST
A. GOODWIN	EDITOR/INSPIRATION

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"FRAGMENTS OF RECENT TIME ARE MISSING. I HAVE REACHED OUT TO GRASP THEM, BUT ALWAYS THEY FADE... MELTING INTO VISIONS OF AFRICA UNDER ICE... A BLACK WOMAN IN FURS,



"WATCHING AS THE LAST BEASTS DIE..."

"WE FLY, NOW, TO... SOMEWHERE. I DO NOT REMEMBER WHY LEIKO HAS BEEN LEFT BEHIND... OR EVEN IF IT WAS AT MY INSISTENCE..."



"...AS RESTON HAS TOLD ME.

WE'LL REACH LATVERIA IN ANOTHER HOUR OR SO, CHI.



WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO SLEEP OFF SOME MORE OF THAT DRUG IN YOUR SYSTEM?

"YES... I WILL SLEEP, BUT ALREADY I CAN SENSE THAT IT WILL BE FITFUL.



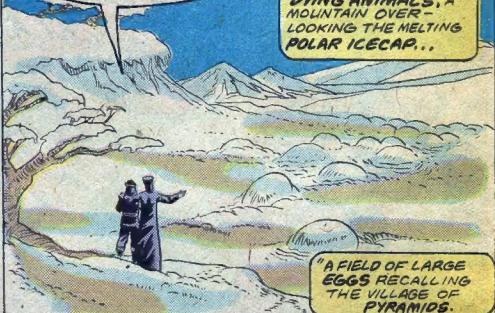
"AND FILLED WITH DREAMS: MY FATHER IS SOMEHOW ALIVE AND SHOULD BE TRYING TO KILL ME, BUT..."



A NEW SPRINGTIME, MY SON.

A TIME OF REVIVIFICATION.

SEE HOW THE SNOW MELTS? THE GLACIER HAS PASSED ON ITS WAY TO THE EQUATOR, AND CHINA IS ONCE AGAIN FAVORED WITH THE BUDDING OF NEW LIFE.



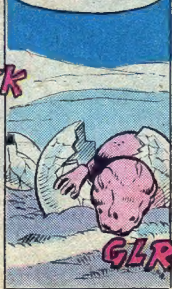
"WE STAND ON A RISE OVERLOOKING ECHOES OF EARLIER DREAMS: A CLIFF OVERLOOKING DYING ANIMALS, A MOUNTAIN OVERLOOKING THE MELTING POLAR ICECAP..."

"A FIELD OF LARGE EGGS RECALLING THE VILLAGE OF PYRAMIDS."

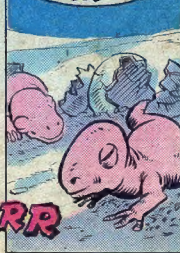
THE AXIS HAS SHIFTED, MY SON, AS IT DID IN PRIMAL TIMES--



--BUT ETERNAL CHINA, AS EVER, SHALL ENDURE--



--INTO A NEW AGE ON EARTH, AN ERA OF NEW BIRTH RETURNING TO THE OLD--



--AND WE SHALL LEAD THIS NEW OLD CHINA, MY SON.



WE... MY FATHER?



YES, SHANG-CHI,
FOR CHINA WAS THE
**BIRTHPLACE OF
LIFE**--THE CRADLE
OF ART, SCIENCE,
CIVILIZED
CULTURE.



SUCH IT WAS
IN THE GLORIOUS
DAYS OF THE PAST,
AND SUCH IT
SHALL BE...AGAIN.



SO YOU SEE, MY
SON? LIFE **FLOURISHES**,
AND THERE WAS NEVER
ANY NEED TO FEEL
REMORSE, AFTER
YOU MURDERED
ME.



FU MANCHU
CANNOT DIE.
I AM TOO
WISE.

I AM **CHINA**, AND
CHINA IS EVER THE
HOST OF **NEW LIFE**,
NEW BIRTH...
AND JUST AS
CHINA
INHERITS
NEW SONS--



--SO SHALL FU
MANCHU SPAWN
NEW SONS...



...TO
**SLAY THE
OLD!!**

"NO!!



"THE FIRE--
BURNING...!"



"NO...JUST
THE FEVER,
BURNING...

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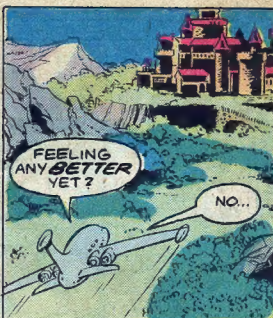
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YEAH, CHI, YOU WOKE UP JUST IN TIME.

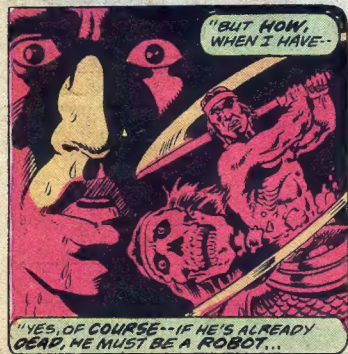
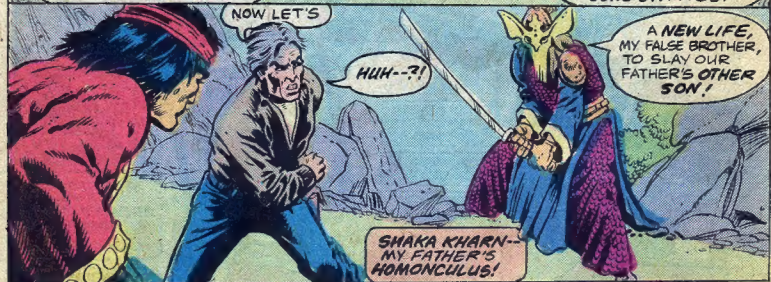


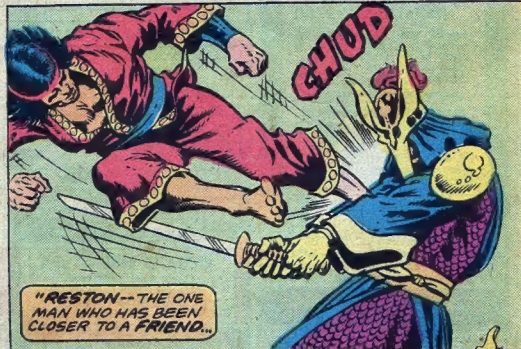
KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN--I WENT THROUGH THAT STAGE LAST NIGHT JUST BEFORE WE LEFT, AND SINCE I WAS DRUGGED SOME SIX HOURS BEFORE YOU, YOU SHOULD BE APPROACHING SANITY IN ANOTHER FEW HOURS.

BUT RIGHT NOW, IT'S TIME TO SEE IF WE CAN'T SNEAK INTO VICTOR VON DOOM'S CASTLE AND GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS CRAZY CAPER.

RESTON, I... THERE ARE STILL PARTS OF TIME I CANNOT REMEMBER. YOU SAY WE LEFT LONDON LAST NIGHT, BUT I... WHERE DID WE GET THIS CRAFT?

WE MAY'VE QUIT, MI-6, CHI, BUT NAYLAND SMITH STILL PULLS A FEW LONG STRINGS.





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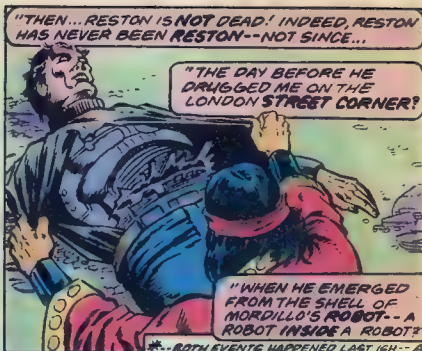


"SO...



"...COLD?"

"SO UNCLEAR--?"



"THEN... RESTON IS NOT DEAD.' INDEED, RESTON HAS NEVER BEEN RESTON--NOT SINCE..."

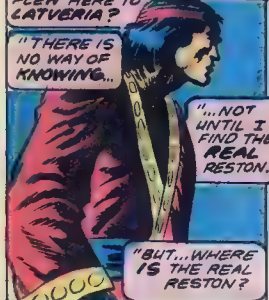
"THE DAY BEFORE HE DRUGGED ME ON THE LONDON STREET CORNER?"

"WHEN HE EMERGED FROM THE SHELL OF MORDILLO'S ROBOT-- A ROBOT INSIDE A ROBOT?"

*-- BOTH EVENTS HAPPENED LAST 16H-- A.

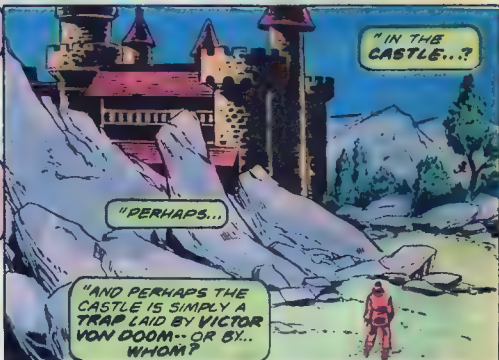
"OR SOMETIME JUST LAST NIGHT--WHEN WE SOMEHOW OBTAINED THE CRAFT AND FLEW HERE TO CATVERIA?"

"THERE IS NO WAY OF KNOWING..."



"...NOT UNTIL I FIND THE REAL RESTON."

"BUT... WHERE IS THE REAL RESTON?"



"IN THE CASTLE...?"

"PERHAPS..."

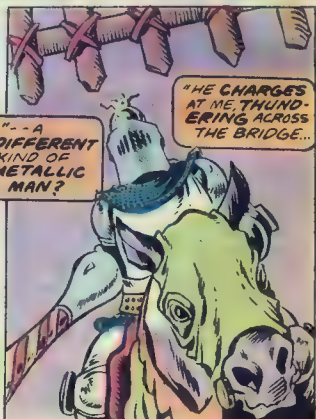
"AND PERHAPS THE CASTLE IS SIMPLY A TRAP LAID BY VICTOR VON DOOM-- OR BY... WHOM?"



"THE BRIDGE IS DOWN, THE PORTAL OPEN."

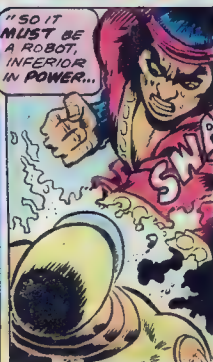
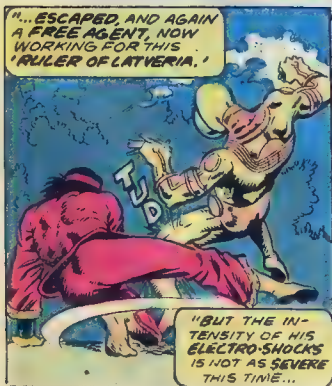
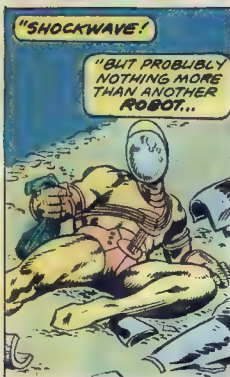
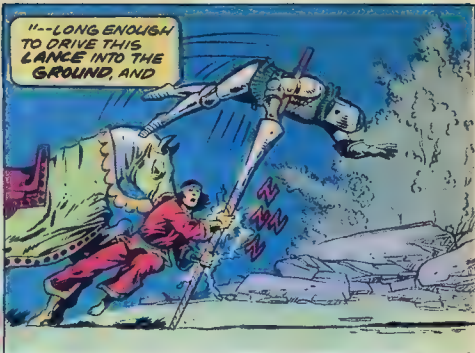
"THERE CAN BE NOTHING GOOD INSIDE."

"THERE CAN ONLY BE--"



"--A DIFFERENT KIND OF METALLIC MAN?"

"HE CHARGES AT ME, THUNDERING ACROSS THE BRIDGE..."



"UNLESS THE DRUG HAS SIMPLY DEADENED MY OWN NERVES...?"

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Total Enclosed \$ _____

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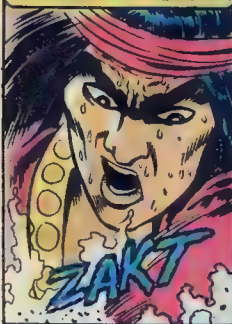
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Canadian Orders: Send \$3.00

33

"WHATEVER THE REASON,
SHOCKWAVE FALLS QUICKLY."



"... ONLY TO REVEAL THE REASON: ANOTHER ROBOT."

"I AM GROWING TIRED OF
ROBOTS, AND I BEGIN TO
TAKE OFFENSE AT THIS SMUG
'RIKLE OF THE CHINESE
BOXES' INSIDE THE KNIGHT'S
ARMOR, SHOCKWAVE, AND
INSIDE SHOCKWAVE, A ROBOT..."

"BUT INSIDE
THE ROBOT...
WHAT? WHAT
DOES ALL
THIS MEAN?
WHY IS IT
HAPPENING?"



"WHO IS BEHIND IT
ALL? HAS MY FATHER
TRULY MANAGED TO
SURVIVE AND--"

"NO SENSE
DWELLING ON
GUESSES."



"BETTER TO
CONFRONT CERTAINTY."

"SCUFFLING,
THE GLOOM
SPEAKS,
DESPITE
ITSELF."



"THEY--OR THEIR
MASTERS?-- HAVE
ANTICIPATE THE FAIL-
URE OF THE SHOCK-
WAVE KNIGHT."

"ROBOTS
ANTICIPATE
NOTHING--"

"--BUT MY
PATIENCE
IS GONE."

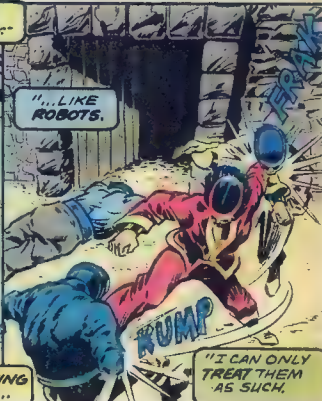
"MOVE AWAY FROM ME,
--OR I WILL ASSUME
YOU ARE
LIFELESS,
AND RE-
FUSE TO
WORRY
ABOUT
SLAY-
ING YOU."



"THEY DO NOT
NEED MY WARNING--"



"...LIKE
ROBOTS."



"--ATTACKING
INSTEAD..."

"I CAN ONLY
TREAT THEM
AS SUCH."

"BUT THE EXERTION
OF THE FLIGHT IN-
CREASES MY PULSE..."



"A MOUNTAIN
OF ICE,
MELTING FROM
A PYRAMID."



"... SPEEDING THE LINGERING
TRACES OF THE DRUG THROUGH
MY BLOODSTREAM..."



"SMITH
LEERING,
UNDER A HALO
OF FIRE."



"...TO MY
MIND..."



"THE LAST
BEASTS DYING
IN SNOWS
THEY HAVE
NEVER KNOWN."



"...RECALLING
STRANGE
IMAGES..."



"A BLACK
WOMAN, WRAP-
PED IN FURS."



"WE MUST
LEARN THE
WISDOM OF
DYING."

"...FROM THE
DARK DREAM-
VISIONS."



"THERE IS NO WISDOM
IN DYING..."



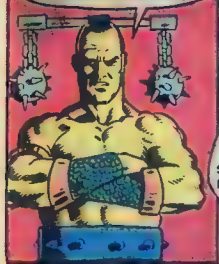
"...ONLY
TRUTH--"

"-- IN CONFRONTING
IT."



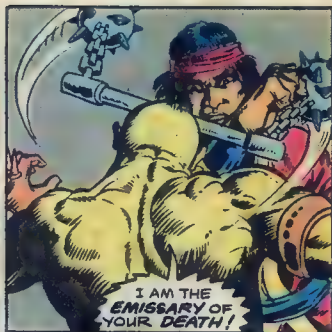
"OF ONE THING I AM CERTAIN
AWAKE OR DREAMING..."

YOU DO NOT REMEMBER ME, SON OF FU MANCHU? YOU DO NOT REMEMBER SHADOW-STALKER?



I HAVE NOT BATTLED SCORES OF...THINGS ...JUST TO FIGHT ANOTHER ROBOT. TELL ME WHERE TO FIND VICTOR VON DOOM.

BUT I AM NOT A ROBOT, SON OF FU MANCHU...



I AM THE EMISSARY OF YOUR DEATH!



"ENOUGH!"



"NO--TOO MUCH! AND IT DRIVES ME BEYOND ALL REASON!"

TUFT



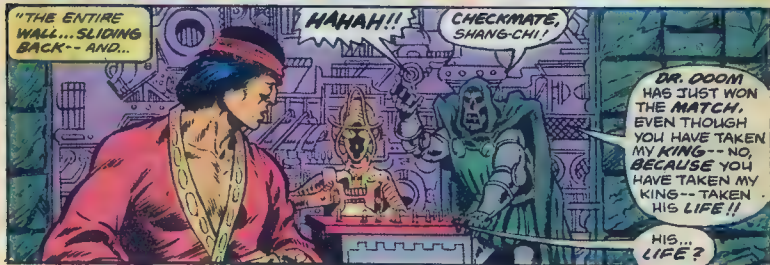
"I AM...BERSERK!!"

KUNCH



"THAT SOUND..."

"WHAT...NOW?"



"THE ENTIRE WALL...SLIDING BACK-- AND..."

HAHAH!!

CHECKMATE, SHANG-CHI!

DR. DOOM HAS JUST WON THE MATCH, EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE TAKEN MY KING-- NO, BECAUSE YOU HAVE TAKEN MY KING-- TAKEN HIS LIFE!!

HIS... LIFE?



YES--CAN'T YOU GUESS?! AFTER ALL YOU'VE EXPERIENCED, ALL THE TWISTING PATHS OF DECEPTION, WHICH HAVE LED YOU HERE TO MY KEEP AND TO FINAL DEFEAT?!

I HAVE OUTWITTED YOU, FORCED YOU TO TAKE A HUMAN LIFE, THINKING IT WAS NO MORE THAN AN ARTIFICIAL CONSTRUCT SET INTO MOTION ON A CONTRIVED BATTLEFIELD, A MERE PAWN ON A CHESS-BOARD!

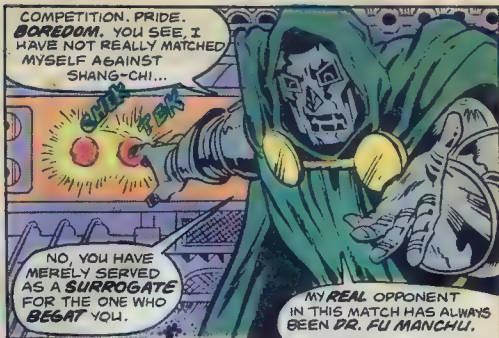
BUT SHADOW-STALKER WAS NOT A ROBOT! HE WAS ALIVE-- AND YOU, SHANG-CHI, HAVE JUST COMMITTED MURDER!





HE WAS--
ALIVE?!

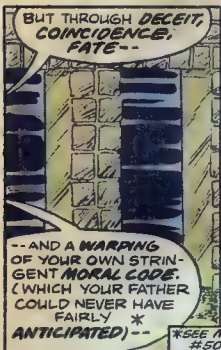
THIS WAS ALL
A...A... **GAME?!**
BUT... **WHY--?!**



COMPETITION. PRIDE.
BOREDOM. YOU SEE, I
HAVE NOT REALLY MATCHED
MYSELF AGAINST
SHANG-CHI...

NO, YOU HAVE
MERELY SERVED
AS A **SURROGATE**
FOR THE ONE WHO
BEGAT YOU.

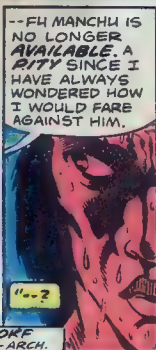
MY **REAL** OPPONENT
IN THIS MATCH HAS ALWAYS
BEEN **DR. FU MANCHU.**



BUT THROUGH **DECEIT,**
COINCIDENCE,
FATE--

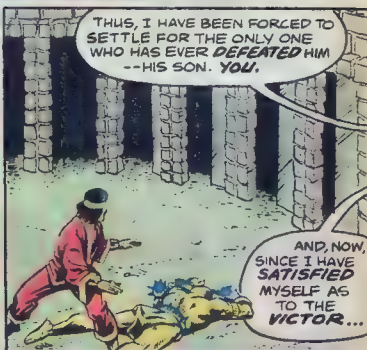
--AND A **WARPING**
OF YOUR OWN **STRINGENT**
MORAL CODE.
(WHICH YOUR FATHER
COULD NEVER HAVE
FAIRLY *
ANTICIPATED)--

*SEE MORE
#50--ARCH.



--FH MANCHU IS
NO LONGER
AVAILABLE. A
RITY SINCE I
HAVE ALWAYS
WONDERED HOW
I WOULD FARE
AGAINST HIM.

"--?"



THUS, I HAVE BEEN FORCED TO
SETTLE FOR THE ONLY ONE
WHO HAS EVER **DEFEATED** HIM
--HIS SON. **YOU.**

AND, NOW,
SINCE I HAVE
SATISFIED
MYSELF AS
TO THE
VICTOR...



"THEY STEP FROM THE
DOORWAYS, ALL OF THEM,
MY **GREATEST FOES**
LIKE **WRAITHS**
FROM THE PAST.

IT IS TIME TO CLEAR THE
BOARD OF **UNFINISHED**
GAMBITS, AND PUT THE
REMAINING PIECES...
AWAY.

THESE ARE MY **RESERVE** PIECES.
YOU SEE, MY SENSE OF FAIRPLAY
EXTENDS ONLY TO THE **LIMITS**
OF THE MATCH--

AND NOW THAT THE
GAME HAS **CONCLUDED,**
I HAVE NO QUALMS WHAT-
SOEVER ABOUT MULTIPLYING
THE ODDS...IN MY FAVOR.

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 AND
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 A SIXTH
 TITLE
 FREE!



AND
 REMEMBER
 --ALL
 TITLES
 ARE
 MAILED
 FLAT!



SEPT-77

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☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA
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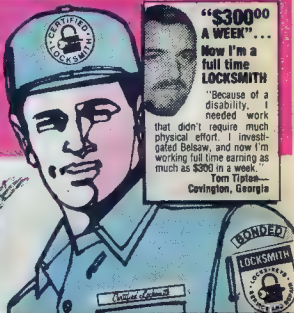


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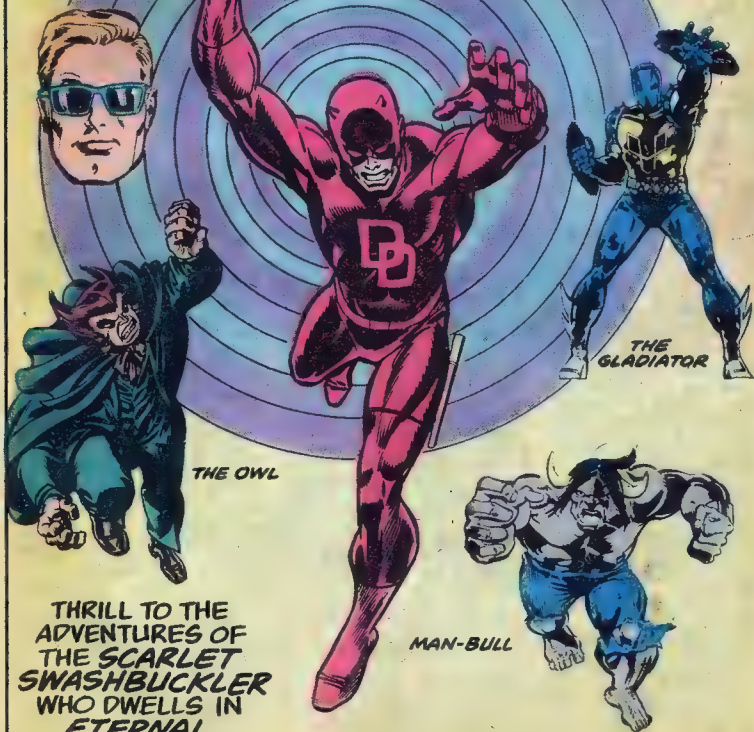
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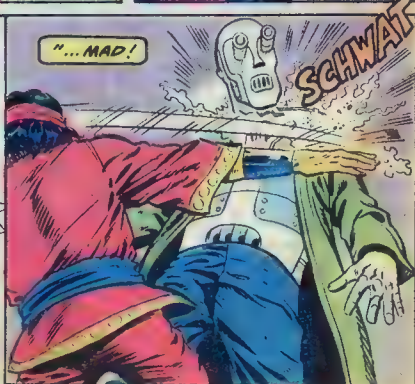
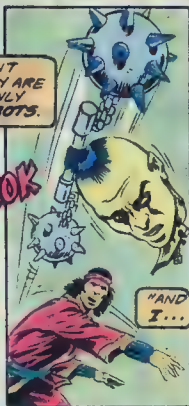
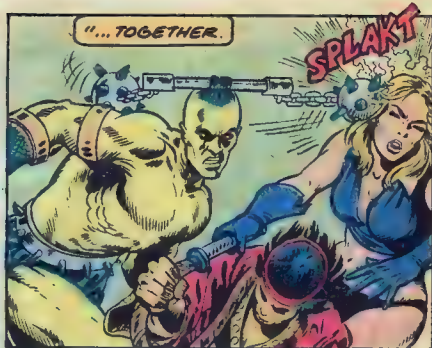
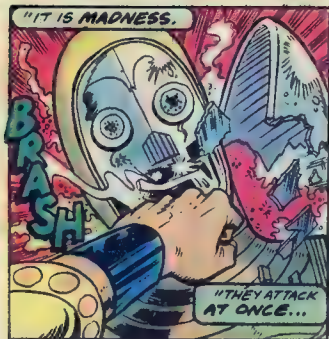
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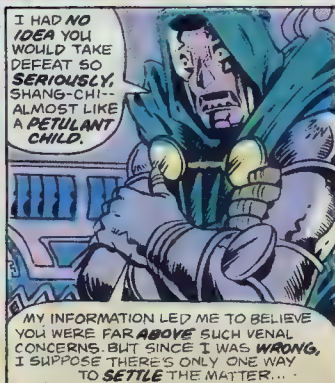
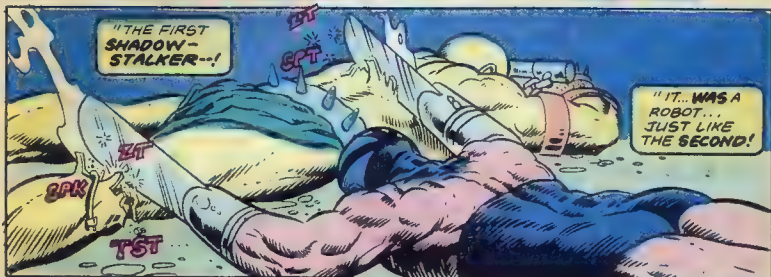
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"YES! AT THIS STAGE, I
WELCOME SUCH A CONTEST!"



"I AM EAGER--HUNGRY
--TO STRIKE THIS MAN--"

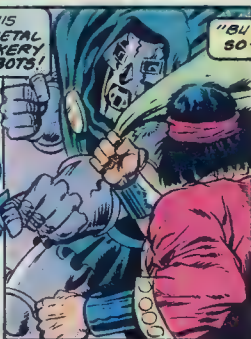


"--TO HURT THIS
FIEND WHOSE METAL
FACE IS A MOCKERY
OF HIS OWN ROBOTS!"

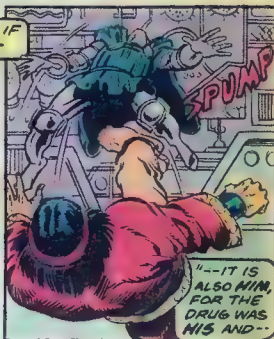


"PERHAPS IT IS THE
DRUG WHICH MAKES
ME SO VICIOUS."

"BUT IF
SO--"



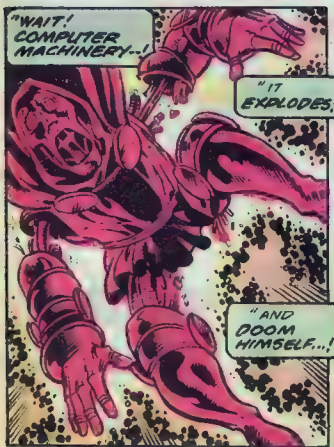
"--IT IS
ALSO HIM,
FOR THE
DRUG WAS
HIS AND--"



"WAIT!
COMPUTER
MACHINERY--!"

"IT
EXPLODES!"

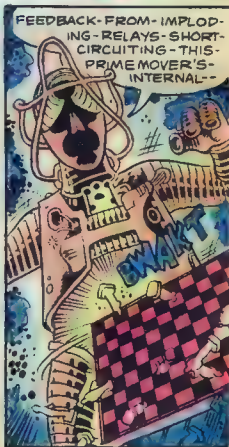
"AND
DOOM
HIMSELF...!"

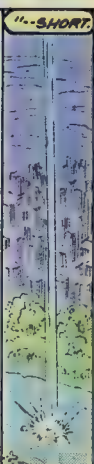
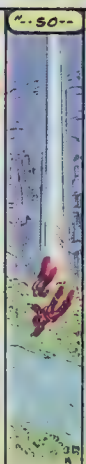
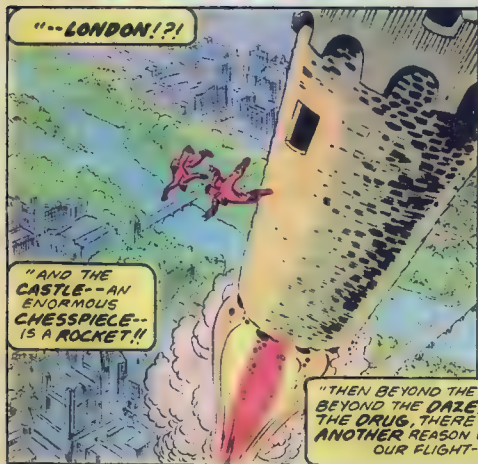
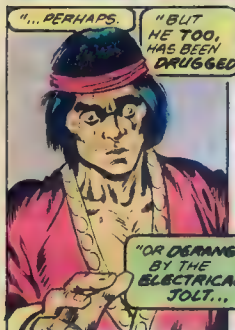


"...WAS
ANOTHER
ROBOT?"



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ING-RELAYS-SHORT-
CIRCUITING-THIS-
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STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

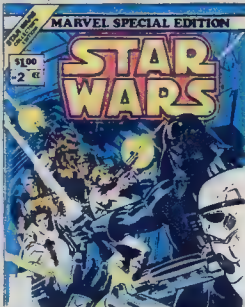
Remember years ago when we warned you that ol' Marvel is taking over the world? Of course, most of you wise and witty old-timers believed us, except for a few malcontents like Irving Forbush! Anyway, here's a little extra proof to show what we mean. You've all heard of Pocket Books, the most famous publisher of pocket-sized books in the world. You've probably got dozens of their titles on your bookshelf right now. Well, guess who's publishing an entire library of SPIDER-MAN and the FANTASTIC FOUR, in full color, so that you can build a permanent, complete collection of our Marvel masterpieces at a rock-bottom price! Next time you're in a book store, be sure to ask for the great new Pocket Books editions of SPIDER-MAN and FANTASTIC FOUR—just tell 'em our armadillo sent you! But that's only the beginning! The newest in our seemingly endless ORIGINS series is just now going on sale—THE SUPERHERO WOMEN—and, judging by the avalanche of advance orders, it'll be the hottest seller of all! But there's still lots more! We've finally sent one of our greatest secret project books to the printer, and now I can breathlessly reveal that you'll soon be able to buy HOW TO DRAW COMICS, THE MARVEL WAY!—by none other than Big John Buscema, who's as qualified as anyone in the world to write such a book, in collaboration with your obedient servant, who's got a lot of nerve butting into the act! Yep, this book, by Lee and Buscema, is the first one ever to reveal the Marvel secrets of drawing super-heroes! We'll tell you when it'll go on sale as soon as Simon & Schuster tells us—but in the meantime, save your shekels, stalwart one! And we've still just scratched the surface! We've got an exciting new MARVEL SPECIAL EDITION, and—aw, why should I give it all away? I'll save the rest for Archie to tell you, about as soon as I sign off. So, till next ish, be good to each other—and keep smiling! Remember, things could always be worse. I could have made this column twice as long!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! Let's get started with a personal note by: offering warmest congratulations to one of our coveting colorists, DON WARFIELD, and to his wife, GAYLE LANDERS, on the birth of their daughter, ELLEN KELLY WARFIELD. We'd wish the happy trio all the luck in the world, but since Ellen was born on the seventh day of the seventh month of the seventy-seventh year at 7:00 PM, she's probably got a corner on that already!

ITEM! Usually we're so out of breath from talking at you about all our new and super special projects—say, for instance, our second STARS WARS TREASURY EDITION which is on sale this month and wraps up the ROY THOMAS/HOWIE CHAYKIN adaptation of this summer's number one movie sensation—that it seems we never get around to mentioning much about our regular monthly and bimonthly titles in this space. Naturally, it's hard not to beat the drum for something like our up-and-coming \$1.00, eighty page, giant MAN FROM ATLANTIS book (more details later) or lay sly hints to all you SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN fans about a particularly colorful surprise which may be headed your way along about Christmas time, but for this edition of the Bullpen Bulletin, your amiable armadillo is resolutely resolved to restrict his ramblings to our rip-roaring regular books (and to declare a moratorium on alliteration for a sentence or three).



ITEM! Though you'll be reading this in the fall, it's still summer as we're hunting and pecking these tidbits, and that means some of our beleaguered Bullpenners have managed to slip away for short vacations, which further means that other, even more beleaguered souls have stepped in to substitute for them on some assignments. Hence, this month and next you get treated to Earnest ERNIE CHAN's pencils and inks on MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE which teams blue-eyed Ben Grimm with none other than SKULL THE SLAYER, and—thanks to ingenious plotting and writing from Marvelous MARV WOLFGAN—wraps up some loose ends left over from when Skull's own book was cancelled. THE DEFENDERS will also have a two issue fill-in art job, and the featured penciler will be Creative CARMINE INFANTINO, whose ability to adapt his unique style to almost any of our crazy characters is making him a mainstay of the line. Those of you who have been demanding that KLAUS JANSON return to inking everybody's favorite non-group will be pleased to note that he does exactly that with these two

issues, and he'll be staying on when Energetic ED HANNIGAN picks up the reins as regular penciler after Carmine's issues. Together with writer DAVE KRAFT, the guys promise some of the most devastating Defenders adventures ever!

ITEM! On the staff front, how about a hearty welcome for Dandy DANNY FINGEROTH, who is taking over as Assistant Editor of our bombastic British books. Danny replaces Bouncing BOB BUDIANSKY who recently so impressed us with his periling of a special Falcon filler story that we decided to start throwing freelance art assignments his way. Bob's in the middle of a DAREDEVIL tale even as we write this. Watch for it: we think the boy's a real comer! Two other titanic talents who have served in Marvel's British Legion, are penciler DAVE WENZEL and inker DUFFY VOHLAND. They too are making inroads into stateside publication, and a future issue of SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN will feature a Solomon Kane tale by Dave and Duffy that we think will really delight you.

ITEM! With JACK "King" KIRBY hard at work finishing the massive one hundred page SILVER SURFER saga he and STAN THE MAN are creating for book publication by Simon and Schuster (The same good folks who are currently bringing you Stan's latest in the ORIGIN series, THE SUPERHERO WOMEN), our CAPTAIN AMERICA comic has passed over to writer/editor Rascally ROY THOMAS. Art chores this month will be handled by Big JOHN BUSCEMA, and after that by the terrific team of Our Pal SAL BUSCEMA and Jolting JOE SINNOTT. And, lest you fear that this shift will leave Mr. Kirby with a few moments breathing space once the Surfer epic is ended, we'll remind you that a couple of sessions back we mentioned that the King was conjuring up some nifty new titles. Though delayed slightly, Jack is just about ready to spring them on you, and we should be able to announce them, with appropriate fanfare, in this column next month. Be here, hear?

ITEM! Space—or the lack of it—makes this our last segment, and we've still got about a jillion things we wanted to crow about and comment on... like the new X-MEN art team of Jocular JOHN BYRNE and Terrific TERRY AUSTIN (the same lads who, along with scripter CHRIS CLAREMONT, dazzled you with STAR-LORD in our magazine-size showcase, MARVEL PREVIEW)... like Delightful DAVE COCKRUM's up-and-coming issue of JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS (just to show everyone that since leaving the aforementioned X-MEN he isn't sitting on his hands or resting on his laurels)... like welcoming TONY and MARY DeZUNIGA back to the Big Apple after their long-time residence in the faraway Philippines, and wondering how Tony managed to make such a move without missing a deadline or even a deft brushstroke in his dazzling inking... but, unfortunately, we can't go into that—there just isn't any space left. Maybe next time, gang.

THOR in "THE DING-A-LING FAMILY"

BY SOME MYSTERIOUS QUIRK OF SPACE AND TIME WARP, THE DING-A-LING FAMILY IS THRUST INTO THOR'S ASgardian ORBIT. THE FAMILY LEAVES A TRAIL OF EVIL-DOING ON EARTH. GRANDMA DING-A-LING LEADS THEM IN SWOOPING SILENTLY UP BEHIND THE ASgardIANS.

LET'S GIT 'EM ALL, KIN. CAPTURE 'EM OR...

...OR OUR NAME'S NOT DING-A-LING!

WE KNOW NOT WHAT PROVOKETH THEE, STRANGE FAMILY... BUT IF THOU DOST COME AMONGST US WITH UNPLEASANTNESS IN THY HEARTS...

WITH UNPLEASANTNESS THOU SHALT BE MET...

...AND THEN SOME.

BY CRACKY, THAT PURTY, YELLA-HAIRED FELLA'S THE LEADER... LET'S HORNSWOGGLE HIM, AND THE REST'LL BE A PIECE OF CAKE...

OK, PA, MA, AUNTIE, SISTER, BROTHER, COUSINS BEE AND BYE, AND GRANDMA--ALL YOU DING-A-LINGS--HOLD HIM STILL, SO AH KEN GIT A BEAD ON 'IM WITH MY ATOMIC SHOTGUN.

THY FAMILIAL BONDS ARE IN-DEED STRONG... PITY 'TIS MIS-SPENT ON EVIL... BUT 'TIS NAUGHT BEFORE THE FIERCE POWER OF THE MYSTIC MALLET Mjolnir...

HEE HEE HAW, COUSIN BYE... AH THINK WE GOT 'IM...

SHO NUFF, COUSIN BEE... IT'S OUR COUSIN-POWER, SECRET WEAPON... NOTHING CAN RESIST IT EXCEPT WHEN OUR HAIDS WANDER A BIT... AND WE LOSE THE CONCENTRATION... AND WE GOOF IT UP OURSELVES.

BUT...WHAT'S THIS?... THE COUSINS THEY CALLETH BEE AND BYE RESISTETH THE HAMMER...?

...AYE THEN, 'TIS BUT CHILD'S PLAY TO USE THIS PLOY AND DISTRACT THE COUSINS BEE AND BYE... AND BYE AND BYE 'T'WILL BE THEIR UNDOING...

...ER...UH...AH... MMM...HMM... LOOKA THEE... COUSIN BYE...

CHERRY... GREAT, LIGHT TENDER CRUST... REAL FRUIT FILLING, COUSIN BYE... I CAN'T RECOLLECT WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT BUT IT COULDN'T BE HALF AS INTERESTIN' AS THESE MOUTHWATERIN' HOSTESS FRUIT PIES...

YOU FOOLS! WE ALMOST HAD THE YELLA-HAIRED ONE IN OUR POWER! DUMB COUSINS!

FORSOOTH, M'LADY... NOT SO DUMB... THEY KNOWETH OF YON DELICIOUS SNACK...

NOW HOME TO ODIN. BE SURE TO SAVE SOME HOSTESS FRUIT PIES FOR THAT GREAT ONE TO ENJOY, TOO!

...ER...COUSIN BEE WHAT WERE WE SAYING...? OH, LOOKA THAT... DELICIOUS HOSTESS® FRUIT PIES... APPLE... AND...

"WE NEVER LEFT ENGLAND!"

"AND NOW, HERE UNDER THE RIVER THAMES, RESTON CONTINUES HIS STRUGGLE TO KILL ME--A STRUGGLE HE WILL ENFORCE TO HIS OWN DEATH."

"MUST BREAK THE SURFACE..."



"...GRASP OUR ONLY HOPE..."

LEIKO?

RESTON--LEIKO IS HERE
--LEIKO!!



"IT WORKED."



"AND IT IS OVER...
FINALLY OVER."

WELL, IF EVERYONE'S FINISHED PINCHING EVERYONE ELSE AND FINALLY CONVINCED WE'RE ALL MADE OF FLESH.

BUT ONE THING WE *KNOW* --THE FIGHT IN THE CASTLE WAS *REAL ENOUGH*, EVEN IF IT WASN'T THE *REAL VICTOR VON DOOM*. THE LATVERIAN GOVERNMENT OWNS THE TWICKENHAM ESTATE IN SUSSEX...

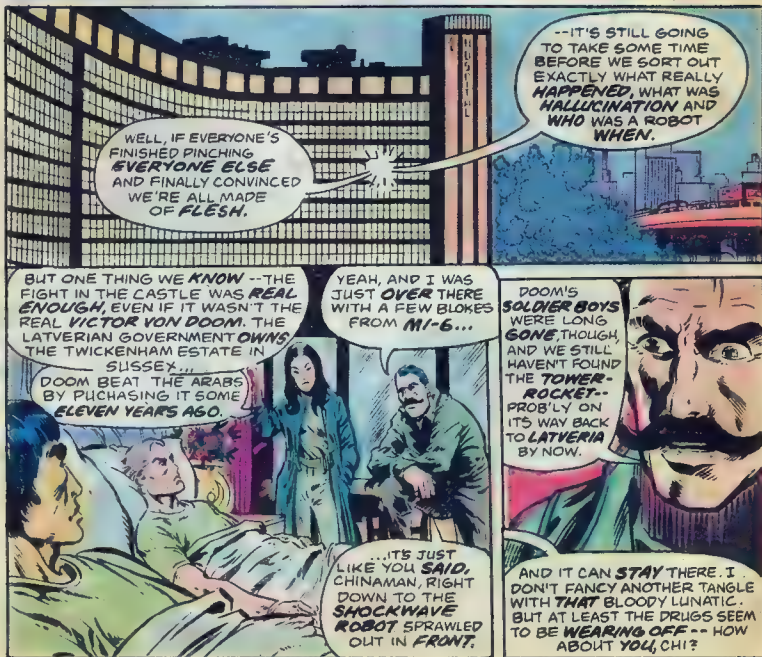
DOOM BEAT THE ARABS BY PURCHASING IT SOME ELEVEN YEARS AGO.

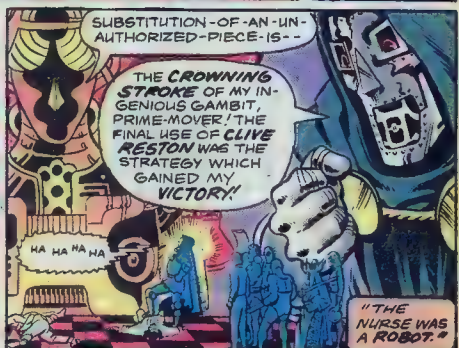
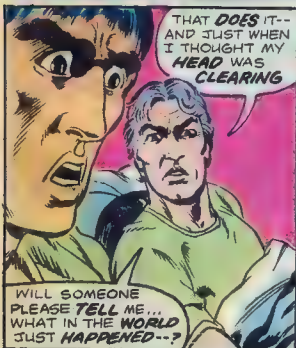
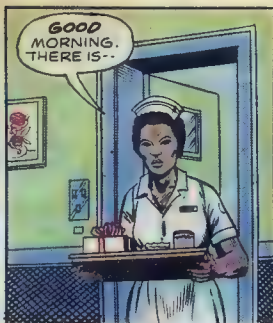
YEAH, AND I WAS JUST OVER THERE WITH A FEW BLOKES FROM MI-6...

DOOM'S SOLDIER BOYS WERE LONG GONE, THOUGH, AND WE STILL HAVEN'T FOUND THE TOWER-ROCKET--PROB'LY ON ITS WAY BACK TO LATVERIA BY NOW.

...IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID, CHINAMAN, RIGHT DOWN TO THE SHOCKWAVE ROBOT SPRAWLED OUT IN FRONT.

AND IT CAN *STAY* THERE. I DON'T FANCY ANOTHER TANGLE WITH *THAT* BLOODY LUNATIC. BUT AT LEAST THE DRUGS SEEM TO BE *WEARING OFF* -- HOW ABOUT YOU, CHI?





NEXT ISSUE: THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW MARTIAL ARTS VILLAIN, IN-- **GLASS ORCHIDS**

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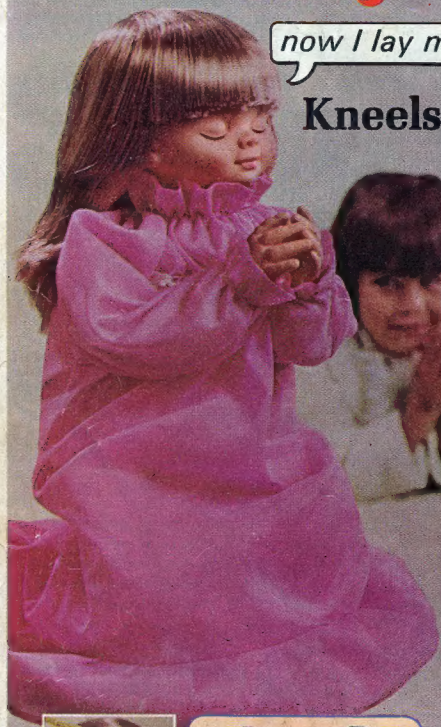
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